

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data collection and transmittal system for a networked device, the networked device performing a stand-alone dedicated function, the system comprising:

data collection logic configured to collect information pertaining to said networked device;

5 message generation logic configured to generate an electronic message containing at least a portion of said collected information; and

a communication system connecting said networked device to a remote server via a digital network,

10 said server configured to process said message from said message generation logic; and

said message generation logic responsive to a triggering event so as to cause said message to be transmitted to said remote server.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein said data collection logic is further configured to collect performance information from said networked device indicative of at least one performance criteria, wherein said performance information is included in said collected information.

3. The system of claim 2 wherein said message generation logic is responsive to an elapsed time.

4. The system of claim 2 wherein said message generation is responsive to a message received from said remote server.

5. The system of claim 1 wherein said digital network comprises the Internet.

6. The system of claim 1 wherein said collected information contains error information.

7. The system of claim 1 further comprising:

a non-human networked device manager at least partially defined by software components, said networked device manager responsive to a second message which directs said networked device manager to perform a specific action.

8. The system of claim 1 wherein said networked device is a jukebox.

9. The system of claim 7 wherein said second message instructs said networked device manager to cause said networked device to use redundant hardware.

10. The system of claim 7 wherein said second message instructs said networked device manager to cause a reconfiguration of said networked device.

11. The system of claim 7 wherein said second message instructs said networked device manager to replace a software module contained within said networked device with a replacement software module.

12. A method of data collection comprising the steps of:
collecting information pertaining to a networked device;
receiving a trigger event;
organizing at least a portion of said collected information into a message; and
transmitting said message to a server in response to receiving said trigger event.

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13. The method of claim 12 wherein said information contains performance data.

14. The method of claim 12 wherein said information contains error information.

15. The method of claim 12 wherein said trigger event is an elapsed time.

16. The method of claim 12 wherein said trigger event is the detection of an error condition.

17. The method of claim 12 wherein said trigger event is the receipt of a message.

18. The method of claim 12 further comprising the steps of:

receiving a second message from said server, wherein said second message directs said networked device to perform a specific action.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein said second message causes a networked device manager to take an action.

20. The method of claim 12 wherein said message is transmitted over a digital packet network.

21. A data collection and transmittal system comprising:

means for collecting data from a networked device;

means for formatting said data into a message;

means for communicating said message to a server via a data packet network; and

means for receiving a trigger event to cause said message to be communicated to said

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server.

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